

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

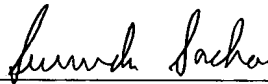
Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

By the present Preliminary Amendment, the specification is amended to correct for an omission by now describing Figure 13 in the "Brief Description of the Drawings" section. That added description to Figure 13 is believed to be fully supported by the original specification for example at page 29, lines 9-11.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)
GJM/SNS:aif

I:\ATTY\SNS\266193US-PR.DOC

Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423